

- helping to determine the root cause of problems and making appropriate systemic changes, and
- tracking progress.

The Early Intervention Branch of the Women's and Children's Health Section in the Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Human Services collaborated with the Department of Public Instruction, Division for Exceptional Children in the development of a statewide case management and data analysis system for children with special needs. This system is completely outsourced and web-delivered and is a commercial, off-the-shelf application. It is capable of collecting, tracking, managing, and analyzing data for children with special needs from birth until the age of twenty-one or until they exit the public school system. This comprehensive application allows the state to have a fully integrated database with the capability of carrying out longitudinal studies as well as providing data for required federal reports. The Department of Public Instruction application called Comprehensive Exceptional Children Accountability System (CECAS) was implemented in the public schools in the fall of 2004. The Infant-Toddler Program module of the system was implemented in early 2005.

The Early Intervention Branch provides management of the integrated database for the Infant-Toddler Program. The Children's Developmental Services Agencies are responsible for entering information into this database. All providers of early intervention services under the Infant-Toddler Program are responsible for accurate submission of information to the Children's Developmental Services Agency. The Service Coordinator is responsible for the completion and submission of the ***North Carolina Infant-Toddler Program Data Form*** to the Children's Developmental Services Agency at all required times. The Children's Developmental Services Agency is responsible for overseeing the submission of these forms and monitoring the flow of data within the catchment area.